

KOMOKA RAILWAY MUSEUM



NEWSLETTER



The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency
Of the Government of Ontario

In June 2016,
the Komoka Railway
Museum was inducted into
the North American Railway
Hall of Fame

The Museum acknowledges a grant
provided by the Municipality of
Middlesex Centre



Komoka: Museum mascot

Komoka Railway Museum
131 Queen Street
Komoka, Ontario
519-657-1912
www.komokarailmuseum.ca



The next regularly monthly meeting is scheduled
For Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 7:30 pm

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

MUSEUM HOURS

The museum will close for the 2017 season on Saturday, November 25th, 2017.
The 2018 season will open again on Saturday, April 7th, 2018.

Ed Spencer and Dan Oatman will be visiting a VON group in Komoka on December 4th to do a presentation on the Komoka Railway Museum.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our annual Christmas dinner is coming up on Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 12:30 pm at the Country Hearth Restaurant. Please let Al Ward know how many are going, so reservations can be made.
Look forward to seeing you there.
Al's phone number is 519 - 471 - 9433.



FROM TRACKSIDE

Our resident locomotive #4 made the annual journey to Hamilton on September 17th and was warmly welcomed as usual by all there.

Although, having ran exceptionally well all season, a few small jobs will receive attention during the winter months. The return cranks need replacing and the cylinder cocks seem to be gummed up with oil. As well, the right hand cylinder lubricant by-pass valve needs reworking. Nothing major and if time permits, an inspection of the piston rings.

SOME LINKS THAT MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO YOU.

Niagara Railway Museum	http://www.nfrm.ca/
Palmerston Railway museum	http://www.palmerstonrailwaymuseum.com/
Toronto Railway Museum	http://www.trha.ca/news.html
St. Jacobs & Aberfoyle Model Railway	http://www.stjacobsmodelrailway.com/
Heimbürger House Publishing (Railroad Books)	www.heimburgerhouse.com
Charlie Smiley Videos	www.cspmovies.com
North American Railway Hall of Fame	http://www.narhf.org/

ANOTHER HIGHLIGHT FROM CANADA 150 display

When is a railroad not a railroad?

That would be the Underground Railway!

Here are some of the railway words used in the routes that slaves escaped to Canada and other destinations.

Homes and businesses that harboured the runaway slaves were known as “*stations*” or “*depots*”.

These stations or depots were run by “*station masters*”

Those who led the slaves from one location to another were identified as “*conductors*”

Those who contributed money or goods were known as “*stockholders*”

The runaways were called “*packages*”, “*freight*”, “*passengers*” or “*cargo*”

Some of the best known locations of the runaway settlements are at Dresden, home of Josiah Jenson; Buxton in Elgin County; Walls Historic Site

The contribution of these escaped slaves to Canada’s history is recognized.

See the article following about a son of escaped slaves who designed a piece of equipment for the steam locomotives and later adapted into other engines as well. Follow the links at the end of the paragraph for more information on Elijah McCoy.

ELIJAH MCCOY : “THE REAL MCCOY”



Elijah McCoy was an Afro-Canadian inventor famous for his many U.S. Patents and railroad innovations. Born in 1843 to fugitive slaves who had escaped to Canada from Kentucky via the Underground Railroad, McCoy was raised a free Canadian citizen.

His success story was one characterized by perseverance, even from his earliest of days. McCoy was originally unable to find work as an engineer in southwestern Ontario, prompting his migration to Michigan, where management on the railway also refused to accept that a Black man could be an engineer. Nonetheless, McCoy refused to let discrimination prevent him from

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applying his educational background and knowledge to improve the working conditions and quality of life experienced by so many.

McCoy found work at the Michigan Central Railroad. In his home-based machine shop, McCoy invented an automatic lubricator cup for oiling the steam engines of locomotives and boats. It relied on a piston set within an oil-filled container. Steam pressure pushed on the piston and thereby drove the oil into channels that carried it to the engine's operating parts.

The officials of the Michigan Central Railroad gave their support. Installed on operating locomotives, it provided lubrication that was more regular and even than could be achieved by the old method of using an oil can during intermittent stops. This proved to be quite useful, for locomotives lasted longer and needed less maintenance.

McCoy's lubricating cup proved adaptable to other types of steam engines, which were used in factories and at sea. Versions of this cup became standard components on many types of heavy machinery, entering service on railways of the West, on Great Lakes steamships, and even on transatlantic liners.

"Railroad purchasing agents commonly insisted on buying "the real McCoy." Other inventors were offering lubricators that competed with those of McCoy, but these agents would accept no substitutes. Many historians assert that the phrase "real McCoy" passed out of the specialized world of railroad engineering and entered general usage, where it came to mean "the genuine article."" (<http://www.famous-black-inventors.net/elijah-mccoy.html>)

McCoy died on October 10, 1929 in Eloise, Michigan.

Source: <http://www.famous-black-inventors.net/elijah-mccoy.html>

<https://blog.ospe.on.ca/community/elijah-real-mccoy/>

Donations for the ongoing maintenance and expansion of our collections are always welcome

YOUR DONATION VIA CAN BE FORWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS

**Komoka Railway Museum
131 Queen Street
Komoka ON N0L 1R0
OR**

If paying via credit card is preferable, please pay online at the following address:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/komoka-railway-museum/>

**The Komoka museum is a registered charity and your donation of \$20.00 or more
can be receipted for income tax purposes.**

FUTURE EVENTS

For more details check out the websites with all the shows listed by following the links below :
<http://www.collectorshows.ca/> and <http://www.railwaypages.com/>

TOY & COLLECTIBLES SHOWS

London Collectibles Expo October 22, 2017
Woodstock Toy and Collectible Show October 29, 2017
Kitchener Collectibles Expo November 26, 2017

NOSTALGIA & SMALL ANTIQUE SHOWS

London Nostalgia & Small Antique Show October 8, 2017
Ancaster Nostalgia Show and Sale October 15, 2017
Woodstock Nostalgia Show and Sale November 19, 2017

MODEL TRAIN SHOWS

Bowmanville 31st Annual Model Railroad Show October 14-15, 2017
Dundas Modular Railway Club Open House October 14, 2017
Woodstock Model Train Show and sale October 22, 2017
Nottawasaga Model Railway Club Fall Auction October 28, 2017
"Boomers" Model Railroad Auction October 28, 2017
Niagara Railway Museum Fall Model Railway Show October 29, 2017
Homes 17th Annual Hamilton & District Layout Tour, November 4, 2017
Guelph Model Railroad Society November 4, 2017
Kitchener Model Train Show and Sale November 5, 2017
Hamilton & Ancaster Model Train Show November 12, 2017
Whitby Model Train Show November 18 & 19, 2017
Greater Niagara Model Railroad Engineers Open House Nov November 18 & 19, 2017
York Railway Modellers Club Show November 19, 2017
Associated Railroaders of Kingston Flea Market and Swap Meet November 25, 2017
Greater Niagara Model Railroad Engineers Open House Nov November 25 & 26, 2017
York Railway Modellers Club Show November 26, 2017
Scarborough Model Railroaders Train Show November 26, 2017

RAILROAD QUOTES

"The time will come when people will travel in stages moved by steam engines from one city to another, almost as fast as birds can fly, 15 or 20 miles an hour.... A carriage will start from Washington in the morning, the passengers will breakfast at Baltimore, dine at Philadelphia, and sup in New York the same day.... Engines will drive boats 10 or 12 miles an hour, and there will be hundreds of steamers running on the Mississippi, as predicted years ago. -- Oliver Evans, 1800."

"Nothing was more up-to-date when it was built, or is more obsolete today, than the railroad station." -- Ada Louise Huxtable

*"Rail travel at high speeds is not possible because passengers, unable to breathe, would die of asphyxia"-
- Dionysius Lardner (1842 - 1914) US journalist, short-story writer*

*"I was the conductor of the Underground Railroad for eight years,
and I can say what most conductors can't say;
I never ran my train off the track and I never lost a passenger."- Harriet Tubman*

Submissions due by October 25, 2017 for November 2017 newsletter

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The newsletter is available via email instead of via Canada Post. Let me know if you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail.

Like our Facebook page, Komoka Railway Museum